

HERE IS WHAT THE SPECIALISTS HAVE BEEN UP TO IN TERM 2



MR. STEPHEN MACDONALD

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K-2

Prepare to be amazed by the incredible musical talents of our youngest learners in grades K-2! Through a fun and engaging curriculum, we are helping our students become "tuneful, beautiful, and artful" individuals, with a solid foundation in the fundamentals of music. In our classroom, singing is a daily joy, as we explore fragment songs, echo songs, and song stories and games to help develop our young voices. Through this approach, our students are building the confidence and skills they need to become accomplished singers and performers.

But music education is about much more than just singing. It is a powerful tool for building creativity, collaboration, discipline, and problem-solving skills. As a dedicated music teacher, my goal is to provide your children with an education in music that helps them create, understand, and perform, while fostering a deep and genuine appreciation for this timeless art form.

As part of our curriculum, our students are also learning all about the instruments of the orchestra. We are focusing on the four instrument families, with a wide range of fun and interactive activities to help us identify and appreciate each one.

And let's not forget the highlight of the year - our spring concert! Grades K-2 have been working tirelessly to prepare a stunning array of songs and performances that will leave you in awe. Stay tuned for more information on dates and times - we can't wait to see you there

3-5

Get ready to be impressed by the incredible progress that our students in grades 3-5 have made in their musical journey this term! With a solid foundation in music theory, including music

notation and rhythmic reading, they continue learning new instruments: the ukulele and keyboards. With just a few chords under their belt, they are already unlocking a whole world of familiar tunes that they can play and enjoy. Our third grade students have taken their right of passage and become recorder players. They are already on their way to becoming seasoned recorder players, learning new songs by rote and developing their instrumental skills every week.

But that's not all! In addition to all this, our talented students have also taken part in some truly inspiring project-based learning opportunities. From writing catchy candy jingles to composing their very own hip-hop song, they have explored the intersection of poetry, art, and music, creating something truly unique and unforgettable.

It's no secret that music education is a powerful tool for building creativity, collaboration, discipline, and problem-solving skills. My ultimate goal as a music teacher is to provide your children with an education that goes far beyond simply teaching them how to play an instrument. I want them to truly appreciate and understand the beauty and power of music, and to be able to use that knowledge to create something truly remarkable.



Mr. Mike Taylor

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Grade k-1

Students continued to work on gross motor skill development and spatial awareness. During term 2 they are introduced to ball skills using various types of balls and manipulatives. They are introduced to upper body strength and development and were given a chance to use the ropes. Physical fitness skills were practiced while enjoyment of physical activity was stressed.

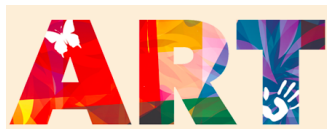
Grade 2nd-3rd

Students are becoming proficient in movement fundamentals, ball handling skills and eye/hand coordination. They had the opportunity to apply these skills in a game setting during the basketball unit. The ropes were an exciting time for students to demonstrate their upper body

strength development. The importance and benefits of regular physical activity is introduced and will continue to be addressed.

Grade 4th-5th

Students are demonstrating proficiency in movement fundamentals, ball handling skills, and eye/hand coordination. They are demonstrating responsible/social behavior during cooperative games and team physical activities. The ropes were an exciting time for the student's to demonstrate their upper body strength development. The benefits of regular physical activity is understood and encouraged to continue outside of physical education.



Mrs. Patricia Pattison

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We kicked off the winter season in our art class, drawing inspiration from the delightful book "Most Marshmallows" by Rowboat Watkins. This particular lesson turned a simple white cup into a lively, three-dimensional paper marshmallow, each infused with its own unique personality. Students from kindergarten to fifth grade delved into the realms of form, line, and pattern, infusing their creations with individual flair.

Our younger artists in grades K-2 have been diligently honing their fine motor skills. Throughout the term, they've embarked on imaginative journeys through fantastical landscapes. Kindergarteners ventured into the world of video landscapes, drawing inspiration from the iconic game Mario Kart, while first graders fashioned enchanting fairy homes. Second graders delved into the realm of mythical creatures. Currently K-2 is immersing themselves in the vibrant styles of street artists such as Keith Haring and Greg Mike, producing pieces that pulsate with energy and creativity.

Meanwhile, in grades 3-5, our art room continues to embody the Teaching for Artistic Behavior (TAB) philosophy. Exploring the nuances of landscapes, from foreground to background, students have been given free rein to express their understanding using a variety of papers and techniques. Currently, we're delving into the world of street art, where students have been introduced to a diverse array of artists, each selecting one to emulate in their own unique creations. It's been a journey of exploration and expression, sparking creativity at every turn.

Don't forget to follow our art adventures on Instagram!

@ArtWithMrs. Pattison



MRS. MELISSA DIONNE

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Term II in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) has been filled with Design Challenges, Engineering with Literature and Coding with Ozobots. Students are continuing to learn how to collaborate with a team and how to turn our mistakes and failures into experiences we can learn from. Students and families that would like to learn more about coding or do more STEAM activities can explore my CLEVER page anytime.

Kindergarten

Students in Kindergarten have been exploring, designing and constructing with a variety of materials such as Magnatiles, Keva Planks, Shape Blocks and Legos. We investigated snowflake design and constructed snowmen. Kindergarten students really enjoyed Rhyme Design Challenges such as designing boats for “Row, Row Row Your Boat” and creating a house and car for the “Crooked Man”.

First Grade

In first grade students had some winter fun with snowflake design and sled and snowman construction. Students learned more about coding using Ozobots. Over the past few weeks we have been reading books by Eric Carle and completing challenges such as creating a house for a hermit crab, designing a spider web that can catch a lot of flies and constructing a model of a tortoise using only one sheet of paper.

Second Grade

Second grade students completed design challenges based on Mo Willems’ Pigeon books. They designed a bed and bus for the Pigeon as well as a raft that would keep the Pigeon dry. Over the past few weeks we learned about the parts of an experiment with Color Chemistry. Students separated colors with chromatography, created new colors from the primary colors and observed a chemical reaction with baking soda and vinegar.

Third Grade

Students in third grade worked on design challenges around the world. Some challenges included designing castles in Europe and a zipline in South America. Over the past few weeks students have been with a group on a Design Challenge based on Biomimicry. Biomimicry is looking at

nature for inspiration in designing new inventions. Students brainstormed ideas based on plants and animals then began turning one of their ideas into a new invention. Students are creating a prototype of their invention and will be presenting their idea to the class.

Fourth Grade

In fourth grade students had fun with Physics by completing design challenges based on the Winter Olympics. Students designed a bobsled that could get down the track in the fastest time, a skier that could get downhill without crashing and a skater that could keep its balance while skating. Students also learned about prosthetics and designed an artificial limb for a stuffed dog.

Fifth Grade

Fifth grade students have been learning about the Sustainable Development Goals (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>) and how these goals relate to STEAM. We have been working on a long term design challenge that focuses on all aspects of the Engineering Design Process (Brainstorm, Research, Plan, Create, Improve/Revise and Present) by creating a new style of shoe.